

REMARKS

Claims 9-34 are pending in the application. Claims 1-8 have been cancelled. Claims 28-34 are new, and find support in original claims 20-26. The claims have been amended herein to reduce multiple dependencies.

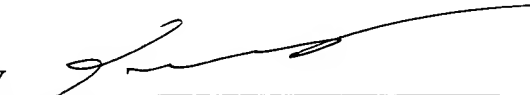
An abstract, substantially identical to the abstract in the international application, has been inserted into the specification.

Entry of the amendment and an early action on the merits is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

PATRICK GERARD JOHNSTON *et al.*

BY



DANIEL A. MONACO
Registration No. 30,480
DRINKER BIDDLE & REATH LLP
One Logan Square
18th and Cherry Streets
Philadelphia, PA 19103-6996
TEL.: (215) 988-3312
FAX: (215) 988-2757
Attorney for Applicants